

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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April 27, 1999 LB 878, 879

No...seeing no discussion, Senator Wehrbein, did you wish to close? He waives closing. The question before the body is, shall LB 878 be advanced to E & R Initial? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 45 ayes, 0 nays on the advancement of LB 878, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: LB 878 is advanced. Mr. Clerk, next item.

CLERK: LB 879, Mr. President, by Senator Kristensen at the request for the Governor. (Read title.) The bill was introduced January 27, referred to the Appropriations Committee, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments, Mr. President. (AM1203, Legislative Journal page 1628.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Wehrbein to open.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker and members of the body, this is on page 65 of your book, if you'd like to see what we're talking about, the deficit bill. This is the committee amendments to the main bill, LB 879. If you can see down through there on page 65, it's everything you ever wanted to know about the deficit in a nutshell. Nine million dollars for the Boys Town lawsuit settlement that we had. That's about a year ago, where we lost a lawsuit for education of the wards of the state, and it was special education versus regular education costs. Based on the Supreme Court decision...we lost that decision...it cost us \$9 million. Salary adjustments to related SLEBC settlements, State Patrol. State Capitol masonry project had an overrun. General Fund support for low-level nuclear waste licensing; that, in this term, is \$1.8 million. There will be another show up next year, in the next biennium, that we'll talk...that is in the last bill, for some more money for the low-level nuclear waste. That is because the judge has prevented those funds being paid in by the power companies, and now we are using General Funds for our defense. This is the deficit for this current year right now, money being spent. I will call your attention to the fact, so everyone knows, in the operating budget for this next year, there was a figure of \$5.7 million. That will be reduced a couple million dollars based on information I received this morning about the amount